



Public Affairs Section

Embassy of the United States of America

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Mandela Washington Fellow Alumni Engagement: Call for Cooperative Agreement

SUMMARY:

The Public Affairs Section of the U.S Embassy in Ethiopia seeks an Ethiopian-based NGO as an implementing partner to organize a series of specific follow-on activities in support of the Mandela Washington Fellowship. The recently renamed Mandela Washington Fellowship is the flagship program of the U.S government's Young African Leaders Initiative, and this year 500 young people from across Africa, including 12 Ethiopians, participated in this prestigious seven-week program which focused on entrepreneurship, civic leadership and public management. The program included thematic leadership training at 20 major US universities, a summit in Washington hosted by President Obama and envisions follow-on activities involving alumni fellows. Working closely in conjunction with the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy in Ethiopia, the grantee will plan and implement a series of specific follow-on activities involving Mandela –Washington Fellow alumni including organizing thematic seminars, professional networking building sessions, mentoring, and community outreach and service projects.

OBJECTIVE:

The goal of the program is to expand the awareness and impact of the Mandela Washington fellowship through a series of specific local outreach activities involving alumni of the program.

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES:

Networking:

Meeting new people, building relationships, and providing outreach to local communities through service and mentorship is most easily facilitated when there is an infrastructure in place. The formation of an alumni network offers alumni of the Mandela-Washington Fellowship program an opportunity to positively impact their community and also deepen their identification with the YALI brand.

Therefore, the project proposal should include the following specific activities:

- Establish an alumni network;

- Create web-based communication platform to facilitate communication among fellows and other young people interested in the details and ideals of the Mandela Washington Fellowship;
- Organize a minimum of one experience sharing session led by three alumni at each of the four American corners in the country; Addis Ababa, Bahir Dar, Jimma, Dire Dawa benefitting at least 50 people in each venue.

Mentoring:

Alumni of the Washington Fellowship program are expected to mentor others in their communities to broaden the impact of their exchange, establish themselves as leaders, and to build their network. Mentorship is a set of structured conversations between individuals with an intended goal, and that is based on a personal development relationship. Whether focused on understanding a professional field, honing leadership or management skills, or developing strategies to address a personal goal, Washington Fellowship alumni who serve as mentors can have a profound impact on the lives of those they ultimately work with.

Therefore, the project proposal should include the following specific activities:

- The implementing partner should provide mentoring guidance and support for all participating alumni;
- Develop a strategy to assist alumni to mentor at least 5 young Ethiopians through the year from ranges of groups such as young leaders who aspire to apply for the 2015 Mandela Washington Fellowship, freshman university students, high school students, rural women, etc.,
- Organize bi-annual mentor/mentee gathering in Addis Ababa to discuss challenges and opportunities.

Community outreach/service:

Alumni of the Washington Fellowship program are leaders uniquely positioned to contribute to their communities through meaningful service. Activities are not limited to simple volunteer initiatives but can take many forms, from short term projects to long term investments in a community. Resources offered through the U.S. embassy, and all the networks of which alumni themselves are members, may be leveraged to support these projects.

Therefore, the project proposal should include the following specific activities:

- Develop a strategy to assist alumni to implement at least one public outreach/training event each quarter. Alumni will be grouped in to their thematic areas as Business Entrepreneurship, Civil Leadership and Public Management.
 - Business Entrepreneurship group (three alumni) provides business development skill trainings to at least 50 aspiring entrepreneurs
 - Public Management group (five alumni) organize seminar on one of the public management skills they gained out of the academic training for at least 50 audiences.
 - Civic Leadership group (four alumni) delivers public lectures on one of the civic leadership skills they gained out of the academic training to at least 100 audiences.

PROJECT PERIOD

The project implementation period is one year, from October 2014 through September 2015.

ELIGIBILITY

Applications are accepted from both local and International NGOs that have a valid NGO license and are currently engaged in activities targeting youth.

BUDGET

Proposals budget should be a maximum of \$46,000, including administrative costs of no more than 10% of the overall total.

DEADLINE

The deadline for submission of proposals is Sunday, September 7, 2014. Proposals should be sent by email, addressed to MandefroEM@state.gov copying DeesLH@state.gov . Please find below the format for submission of proposals.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact U.S. Embassy Cultural Affairs Officer Learned Dees (email: DeesLH@state.gov) or Cultural Affairs Assistant Eyerusalem Mandefro (email: MandefroEM@state.gov).

Section 1. General Proposal Information	
1.1.Proposal submitted by:	1.2.Contact person:
Section 2. Project Description	
2.1. Narrative summary <i>Please provide a short narrative summarizing how your organization plans to build a program for alumni of the Mandela Washington Fellowship through network building, mentorship, and community service activities.</i>	
2.1.1. Network building <i>Describe the strategy and specific activities that your organization will develop and implement in establishing an alumni network that will expand the awareness and impact of the Mandela</i>	

Washington Fellow in conjunction with alumni and which will serve as a platform for alumni to hone their leadership skills, provide mentoring, and offer community service to others.

2.1.2.Mentoring:

Describe the strategy and specific activities that your organization will undertake to structure and implement a sustainable mentoring program led by alumni of the Mandela Washington Fellowship

2.1.3. Community Outreach and Service:

Describe the strategy and specific activities that your organization will undertake to structure and implement a community outreach and service program involving Mandela Washington Fellow alumni.

Section 3. Monitoring and Evaluation

Describe how your organization monitors and evaluates the implementation of activities described above.

Section 4. Reporting

Describe what sort of reporting mechanism your organization puts in place.

The Public Affairs Section expects quarterly written reports from the implementing partner.

Section 5. Financial Management Plan

Describe your organization's financial management plan with regard to this project.

Section 6. Budget Breakdown

Describe how budget is going to be disbursed for each of the three main activities and other related costs.